

Today's Topics:

ARRL 79: S.F. QUAKE UPDATE
Consumer info?
DIRECTION FINDING EQUIPMENT (SuperDF)
Earthquake in SF!!!
Guemes Island followup
Heath 2060A Tuner review
How Much Good Does Ham Radio "Emergency Preparedness" Do?
IC-2S mods?
Integrand "PC" cabinets
Neutralizing Heathkit finals (6146/A/B woes)
Noise Blankers
SHORT WAVES
Solar Power
TM-701A MOD UPDATE
Wondering about 455 kHz

Date: 24 Oct 89 04:49:04 GMT

From: n8emr!gws@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Gary Sanders)

Subject: ARRL 79: S.F. QUAKE UPDATE

=====
| Relayed from packet radio via |
| N8EMR's Ham BBS, 614-457-4227 (1200/2400/19.2 telebit,8N1) |
=====

ARRL BULLETIN 78 ARLB078
OCTOBER 23, 1989

SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE. THE ARRL SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION MANAGER ADVISES THAT AMATEURS SHOULD ACCORD TOP PRIORITY TO COMMUNICATIONS INVOLVING THE IMMEDIATE SAFETY OF INDIVIDUALS AND PROTECTION OF PROPERTY. SECOND PRIORITY SHOULD BE ACCORDED COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTLY RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF SHELTER, FOOD AND SAFETY TO THE HOMELESS. THIRD PRIORITY COMMUNICATION IS OUTGOING HEALTH AND WELFARE MESSAGES. FOURTH PRIORITY IS INCOMING HEALTH AND WELFARE MESSAGES. THE SECTION MANAGER THANKS AMATEURS FOR CONTINUING COMMUNICATIONS EFFORTS.

--

Gary W. Sanders (gws@n8emr or ...!osu-cis!n8emr!gws), 72277,1325
N8EMR @ W8CQK (ip addr) 44.70.0.1 [Ohio AMPR address coordinator]
HAM/SWL/SCANNER BBS (1200/2400/PEP) 614-457-4227

Date: Mon, 23 Oct 89 13:23:44 -0700
From: Doug Faunt N6TQS 415-688-8269 <faunt@cisco.com>
Subject: Consumer info?

Does anyone have anything good or bad to say about Madison Electronics Supply in Houston TX? They have the Kenwood TM731 for \$599. until the end of November.

Also, has anyone comments on running a 721/731 as a remote base? I've talked to several people who've had it work pretty nicely, and I think it would be real useful to be able to just use a HT, and move freely throughout a building, and have the 731, in a vehicle, with a good antenna, and in a good location, act as a remote base.
73, and thanx, doug

Date: 23 Oct 89 22:25:48 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!ctrsol!uakari.primate.wisc.edu!ginosko!usc!merlin.usc.edu!aludra.usc.edu!keenan@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Robert N. Keenan)
Subject: DIRECTION FINDING EQUIPMENT (SuperDF)

>I just received literature for the SuperDF direction finder.
>I first read about this product in the "Transmitter Hunting" book
>then in "Mobile Radio Technology" magazine.
>
>Has anyone on the net tried the SuperDF? If so, please comment
>on your experiences and you opinion of the quality of construction,
>performance, etc.

I do not own one myself, but I have gone T hunting many times with a friend who has one. The unit works very well for DFing on foot. It works by detecting changes in phase (I think), so as long as the signal is present, its level is not important. The guy I know who uses the Super DFer beats dopple scan teams very often, and he is the best DFer on foot that I know. From the times I have seen the Super DFer in use, I would buy one in a second if I had that kind of money.

Robert, WU6L
keenan@usc.edu
WU6L@WB6YMH-2

Date: 21 Oct 89 08:20:38 GMT
From: hpl-opus!hpnmdla!roger@hplabs.hp.com (Roger Petersen)

Subject: Earthquake in SF!!!

Can anyone provide a report about how well the Bay Area hams responded to the earthquake?

My roommate was listening to his scanner Tuesday night, and said that most of the activity on 2 Meters was people trying to figure out logistics -- who, on what frequency, doing what. He commented that there was a lot more "noise" than "useful signal", implying that us hams weren't prepared.

I was out of town all week, so I didn't have a chance to tune in. How smoothly did things go?

Roger
WB6NRS

Date: 23 Oct 89 18:40:20 GMT
From: hpda!hpcuhb!hpscddc!rkarlqu@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Rick Karlquist)
Subject: Guemes Island followup

It seems to me that the rule about two islands being separated by foreign territory is referring to a case where either of the islands would have been a country by itself (being 275 miles from the mainland). In this case, you would have two instead of one country. I don't believe it is intended to make islands less than 275 miles away separate countries. The reason for the rule is apparently an extension of the rule that says once you have one island 275 miles away as a separate country, subsequent islands that are also 275 miles away need to be separated 500 miles (or whatever the number is) from the first island. What they're saying is that foreign territory is a substitute for the 500 miles. Neither Guemes island or the other island is 275 miles away, so this rule never even comes into play in the first place. So Tad is taking the rule out of context.

I think this admittedly poorly written rule is similar to the second amendment to the constitution that says something like:

"A well regulated militia being necessary to the common good, the right of the people to keep and bear arms is not infringed".

Some people have claimed its OK to take the second half of the sentence out of context and claim the bearing of arms is a right of the individual not the militia. Again,

admittedly it should have been written more clearly, but the courts have consistently refused to take it out of context. Hence, Don Search can use the same line of reasoning and still say he is a "strict constructionist."

N6RK

Date: Mon, 23 Oct 89 11:08:46 EDT
From: Michael_Edelman%Wayne-MTS@um.cc.umich.edu
Subject: Heath 2060A Tuner review

In response to an inquiry:

I bought a 2060A about a year back when I was running QRO and working on my WAN (worked all neighbors). I bought it on the advice of two locals who think it's the greatest thing since sliced cheese; I have a different opinion.

First, there are a few parts that I think are **very** poorly engineered. The push-button switches on the front panel require a lot of odd patches; clipping a terminal strip and soldering it to the switch assembly was one. It's not clean construction. The knobs are cheesy and easy to strip; the counter assembly is pretty cheesy for a \$300+ kit, too.

Some of these faults may be a result of my ham-handedness; I had to be very careful when spinning the roller inductor. It could easily be spun past its stops, and then required removing the cover and diddling about to restore.

Mine is for consigned for sale at a local store, replaced by a small MFJ. I always hear people slamming the MFJ line, but the darn things are well built. I may not be alone in disliking the 2060A; I saw a few advertised in the yellow sheets for under \$175 and \$200.

As a side note, I picked up the 100W Heath tuner kit at a close-out deal at a local Heath store. Again, some parts are just too cheesy and underbuilt. The rotary switch can easily be rotated out of its keyed stop; the antenna terminals are #6 or #8 screws on a piece of phenolic- the kind you see used as a speaker terminal on cheap stereos. At least this one only cost me \$20.

01001001 de ke8yy

Wayne State University / 5925 Woodward / Detroit, MI 48202
Internet: Michael_Edelman%Wayne-mts@um.cc.umich.edu
KE8YY%Wayne-Mts@um.cc.umich.edu
Bitnet: MEDELMAN@WAYNEST1

fax: 1-313-577-5626 Landline: 1-313-577-0742

Date: 22 Oct 89 08:18:22 GMT
From: hpl-opus!hpnmdla!roger@hplabs.hp.com (Roger Petersen)
Subject: How Much Good Does Ham Radio "Emergency Preparedness" Do?

In rec.ham-radio, forrest@sybase.com writes:

> For a long time I have watched and listened to many emergency
> preparedness efforts that have taken place. I don't take part in
> them because based on my experiences in several major earthquakes
> and other lesser disasters, I've learned that most of this well
> intentioned work doesn't amount to much. What usually happens is
> that there is about 80% chaos, confusion, and needless running
> around.

My roommate listened on 2-meters the night after the quake, and had the same comment. Lots and lots of working out logistics (which frequencies for what, who, etc), and very little emergency traffic.

I was out of town the whole week, so I couldn't tell him otherwise. I hope that things went more efficiently than he described.

Roger Petersen
WB6NRS

Date: 23 Oct 89 18:52:16 GMT
From: mcsun!sunic!sics.se!sics.se!klemets@uunet.uu.net (Anders Klemets)
Subject: IC-2S mods?

Does anybody know how to modify an IC-2S to the European or the American version?

Thanks,
Anders SMØRGV

--
klemets@sics.se

Date: 23 Oct 89 20:39:08 GMT
From: cadre.dsl.pitt.edu!km@pt.cs.cmu.edu (Ken Mitchum)
Subject: Integrand "PC" cabinets

In search of better RFI shielding, I am planning on replacing my 286 clone's cabinet with one of the rack mount cabinets from Integrand. I have used their cabinets before, back in S100 times, and know they are of high quality.

The only problem I am having is deciding on a configuration. The cabinet itself is inexpensive (\$100), but the custom power supplies that Integrand sells run around \$200 extra. It is difficult to tell from the drawings supplied by Integrand in its catalog just how difficult it would be to mount a "standard" supply in the cabinet.

I would appreciate any information anyone has regarding this, particularly from individuals who have bought raw cabinets from Integrand.

Ken Mitchum MD KY3B
Decision Systems Labs
University of Pittsburgh
km@cadre.dsl.pitt.edu

Date: 23 Oct 89 21:12:05 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!ctrsol!uakari.primate.wisc.edu!aplcen!
stda.jhuapl.edu!mjj@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Marshall Jose)
Subject: Neutralizing Heathkit finals (6146/A/B woes)

Rusty, et al.,

For those of you hams who aren't afraid of electron tubes, take heart -- I'm still looking for the answer to this question about neutralization. I'm also going to try feedforward-minimization in the meantime. If there's anybody out there who has the answer, please pipe up. CUL,

Marshall Jose WA3VPZ
mjj@aplvax.jhuapl.edu || ...mimsy!aplcen!aplvax!mjj

Date: 23 Oct 89 16:09:14 GMT
From: hpda!hpcuhb!hpscdd!rkarlqu@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Rick Karlquist)
Subject: Noise Blankers

Perhaps Yaesu knows something Kenwood doesn't. My Yaesu FT-757 also has an *amazing* noise blanker that completely eliminates power line noise. I have many complaints about the 757, but whoever designed the noise blanker must know what he's doing.

N6RK

Date: 23 Oct 89 17:16:00 GMT
From: inmet!benk@uunet.uu.net
Subject: SHORT WAVES

Again, I recommend the Sangean ATS-803A, which is sold in the U.S.A. as the Radio Shack DX-440. The '440 should set you back about \$195.00.

As for the times/frequncies of the Israeli Radio (Kol Israel), consult a copy of the "World Radio TV Handbook." (If I've got some time later today, I'll try to abstract some info. from the WRTH that might be of help to you.

Good listening.

-- Ben Krepp

From uunet: uunet!inmet!benk
From DDN: benk@inmet.inmet.com

Date: 23 Oct 89 19:27:38 GMT
From: zephyr.ens.tek.com!tekcr1!tekgvs!jans@uunet.uu.net (Jan Steinman)
Subject: Solar Power

<I took delivery on a Sovonics "25 watt" solar panel just before Field Day. We used it to charge Gel Cells and ran our 75m phone station and my video camera to tape some of the field day activities.>

I have the Sovonics panel, as purchased from Antennas West, and am quite happy with it. I also have the 8A regulator they sell, and am not so happy. I gets quite warm -- I'd guess at least two or three of my hard-earned watts are going into heating the package. It makes clicking noises, so I assume it has a relay in it. I'd think a power MOSFET would do a better job! It also seems to stick sometimes, as I can see the charge LED dimly glowing at night sometimes.

If anyone has a more efficient gel-cell regulator, I'd like to hear from you.

Jan Steinman - N7JDB
Electronic Systems Laboratory
Box 500, MS 50-370, Beaverton, OR 97077
(w)503/627-5881 (h)503/657-7703

Date: Mon, 23 Oct 89 21:22 CDT
From: SURESH KAGOO N9GSA/4S7??? <SKAGOO%MEMSTVX1.BITNET@CORNELLC.cit.cornell.edu>
Subject: TM-701A MOD UPDATE

THE KENWOOD TM-701A WILL ONLY CROSS BAND REPEAT ONLY ON SIMPLEX
FREQUENCIES.

DOES ANY BODY HAVE ANY MODS FOR THE KENWOOD TH75A HANDHELD DUAL BANDER
??? IF SO PLEASE POST OR E-MAIL THEM TO ME

THANKS IN ADVANCE

73 DE N9GSA

SURESH KAGOO MEMPHIS STATE UNIVERSITY, MEMPHIS TN.
 BITNET : SKAGOO@MEMSTVX1
 INTERNET : SKAGOO@MEMSTVX1.BITNET

Date: Mon, 23 Oct 89 17:00:59 -0400
From: jpb@ATHENA.MIT.EDU
Subject: Wondering about 455 kHz

Does anyone out there know how 455 kHz got to be such a popular IF ?
Why 455, (as opposed to 450 or 500, e.g.)?

Just curious.

73 de ka1rcv --- John Paul Braud (jpb@athena.mit.edu)

Date: Mon, 23 Oct 89 17:43:35 -0900
From: <FSPAM%ALASKA.BITNET@CUNYVM.CUNY.EDU>

I just got a blurb in the mail today about a Local Area
Wireless Network. The manufacturer is O'Neill
Communications Inc. of Raleigh NC. Specifications in brief:

Frequency: 902 to 928 MHz
Speed: 38,400 bps
Channels: 4
Transmit power: 20 mW
Modulation: spread spectrum

Antenna: internal array (omnidirectional)
Protocol: AX.25 (X.25 standard for radio) [Really!]
Contention: Carrier Sense Multiple Access (CSMA)
Coverage inside buildings: 10,000 sq. ft. (typical)
Range unobstructed in space: 500 ft. (typical)
FCC license: not required

Photos show a box that looks like an external hard disk that plugs into the serial port of a PC, with special models available for printers and modems.

Thoughts:

1. Looks like the 902 MHz band plan isn't going to matter one way or another to weak signal users.
2. Ham radio HAS contributed something to radio technology since SSB in the fifties.

Phil Munts, N7AHL
University of Alaska, Fairbanks

End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #796
